Fist. Be merciful, great duke[8], to men of mould[9]!
Abate thy rage, abate thy manly rage!
Abate thy rage, great duke!
Good bawcock, bate thy rage! use lenity, sweet chuck!

Nym. These be good humours!—your honour wins bad humours.

[*Exeunt* Nym, Pistol, *and* Bardolph, *followed by* Fluellen.

[8] Be merciful, GREAT DUKE.] That is, great commander. So, in Harrington's Orlando Furioso, 1591:

"And as herself the dame of Carthage kill'd,
"When as the Trojan *duke* did her forsake —."

The Trojan *duke*, is only a translation of *dux Troianus*. So also in many of our old poems. *Duke* Theseus, *Duke* Hannibal, &c. See vol. v. p. 176, n. 6. In Pistol's mouth the word has here peculiar propriety.

The author of Remarks, &c. on the last edition of Shakspeare, [Mr. Ritson,] says, that "in the folio it is the Duke of Exeter, and not Fluellen, who enters [here], and to whom Pistol addresses himself." It is sufficient to say, that in the only folio of any authority, that of 1623, this is not the case. When the King retired before the entry of Bardolph, &c. the Duke of Exeter certainly accompanied him, with Bedford, Gloster, &c. though in the folio the word *Exeunt* is accidentally omitted. In the quarto, before the entry of Bardolph, Fluellen, &c. we find *Exit Omnes.*

In the quarto, Nym, on Fluellen's treating him so roughly, says, "Abate thy rage, sweet *knight!*" Had these words been preserved, I suppose this Remarker would have contended, that Nym's address was not to the honest Welshman, but to old *Sir* Thomas Erpingham.

I should not have taken the trouble to refute this unfounded remark, had I not feared that my readers, in consequence of the above-mentioned misrepresentation of the state of the old copy, might be led to suppose that some arbitrary alteration had here been made in the text. MALONE.

Sylvester, in his Dubartas, terms Moses "a great *duke*"

BOSWELL.

9 — to men of MOULD!] To men of *earth*, to poor mortal men.

JOHNSON.

So, in the Countess of Pembroke's Yvvchurch:

" At length *man w$ made of mould,* by crafty Prometheus."

STEEVENS.